**Norms for Fixing Procurement Prices of Rice and Wheat**

2463. SHRI S.K.T. RAMA-CHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) what at th.e norms adopted in fixing up procurement prices of rice and wheai ;

(b) wheher the input cost of production of these commodities are taken into account in fixing prices ;

(c) what is the margin of profi-, allowed to the farmers ; and

(d) why : he procurement price of foodgrains is always lower than the marks prices of these commodities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMA-LUDDIN AHMED) : (a.) and (b) The procurement prices of rice payable to rice Millers/dealers for delivery of levy rice as fixed on the basis of Minimum Support Price (MSP) of paddy and af er raking into account f he s al ut ory ; axes/charges payable on purchase of paddy, i rans-portation cost, milling charges, qunny depreciation etc. and the ou -urn raios for conversion of paddy into rice. Paddy and wheat are procured from farmers under price support operation on voluntary basis. The MSP of paddy and whea! are fixed by Government after laking into accoun; the recommendation of Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), the views of State Governments, Central Ministries and such other relevant factors which in the opinion of the Government are important for fixation of support prices. The CACP considers the following important factors while formulating its. re-commendatons :—

(1) Cost of production.
(2) Changes in input costs.
(3) Input/output price parity.
(4) Trends in market prices.
(5) Demand and supply positit
(6) Inter crop price policy.
(7) Effect on industrial co struc ure.
(8) Effection general price level
(9) Effection cost of living.
(10) International marks: pri situation.
(11) Terms of trade.

(c) The procurement/minimu support prices fixed by Governmet cover the cost of production pli reasonable- margin of profit ′ farmers.

(d) The minimum support pri fixed by the Government is t o ensui that the producer is not compelk to sell the foodgrains ar prices lowe than the announced minimum sup port prices. The procurement wheat and paddy take place in I event of farmer not getting pria higher than the minimum suppo price and voluntarily selling \f foodgrains to public procuring agei cies at (he minimum support price

**Central Warehousing Corporation**

2464. SHRI SUSHILKUMAJ SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE : Wi the Miniser of FOOD be please to state :

(a) what is he number of thef reported during 1991-92 in the wars houses of the Centrai Warehousin Corporal ion in • he count ry ;

(b) what is he quantity and valu involved in such thefts; and

(c) what steps are being take by Government to prevent sue t h e f s ?

THE MINISTER OF STATJ IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVII SUPPLIES AND PBULIC DIS TR1BUTION (SHRI KAMA LUDDIN AHMED) : (a) Durin; the year 1991-92, a total of 49 that